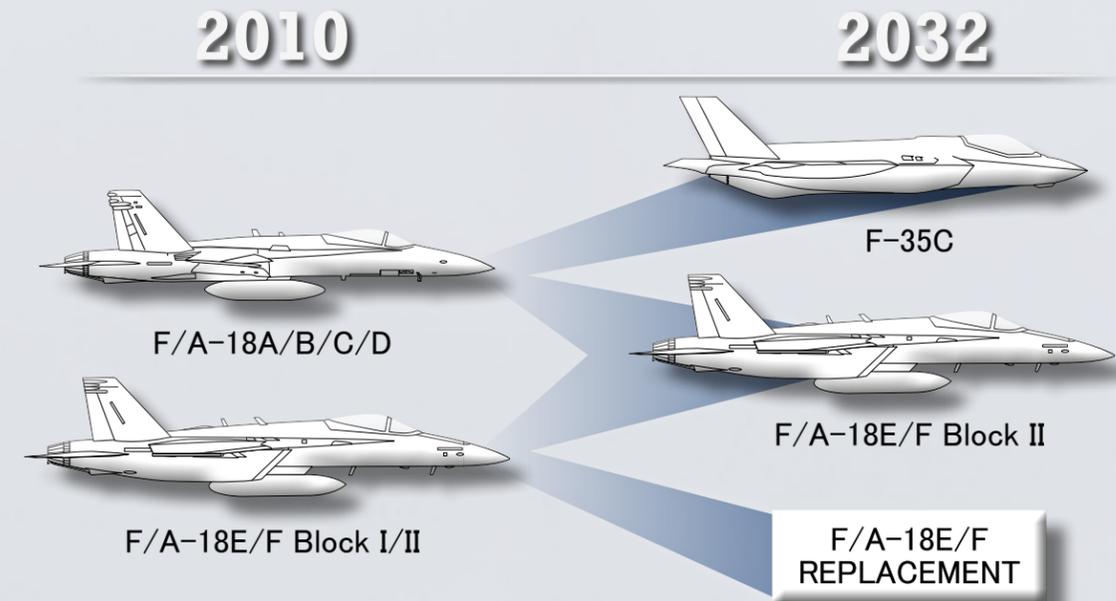


TS-1, 1922



F-35C *Lightning II* Joint Strike Fighter

The Joint Strike Fighter program is building a tri-service family of next-generation strike-fighter aircraft that is flexible and survivable. With its all-aspect stealth strike design, internal weapon carriage, fully fused mission systems, and unrefueled combat radius of approximately 650 nautical miles, the Navy's F-35C *Lightning II* will complement the capabilities of the F/A-18E/F *Super Hornet* now serving as the Navy's premier strike fighter. The F-35C will enhance the flexibility, power projection, and strike capabilities of carrier air wings and joint task forces. Initial operational capability for the F-35C *Lightning II* is late fiscal year 2014.

F/A-18E/F *Super Hornet* Strike Fighter

There are a number of enhancements to the F/A-18E/F *Super Hornet* that will sustain its lethality well into the 21st century. Upgrades include critical growth capability, enhanced survivability, and weapon bring-back improvement. Avionics upgrades for the F/A-18E/F

Block II include the APG-79 Active Electronically Scanned Array Radar System, the Infrared Search and Track System, and advanced sensor integration. Future avionics upgrades will enable network-centric operations, which will enhance situational awareness and the transfer of data to command-and-control nodes. With the recent retirement of the S-3B *Viking*, the *Super Hornet* is providing the organic tanking mission for carrier air wings.

The Naval Aviation Enterprise (NAE) has initiated a study to assess the capabilities required when the F/A-18E/F reaches the limits of its service life beginning in 2025. This assessment is being led by the Director, Air Warfare (N88), with inputs from the other services and industry. The assessment is the initial stage of the requirements and acquisition process; it will evaluate a full range of considerations for addressing future Navy needs and recapitalization issues, including manned, unmanned, and system-of-systems options. The capabilities assessed during the study will be further developed and refined through operational analytical modeling and simulation, potentially leading to an analysis of alternatives and, eventually, a competitive fly-off between various industry proposals for the F/A-18E/F Replacement.

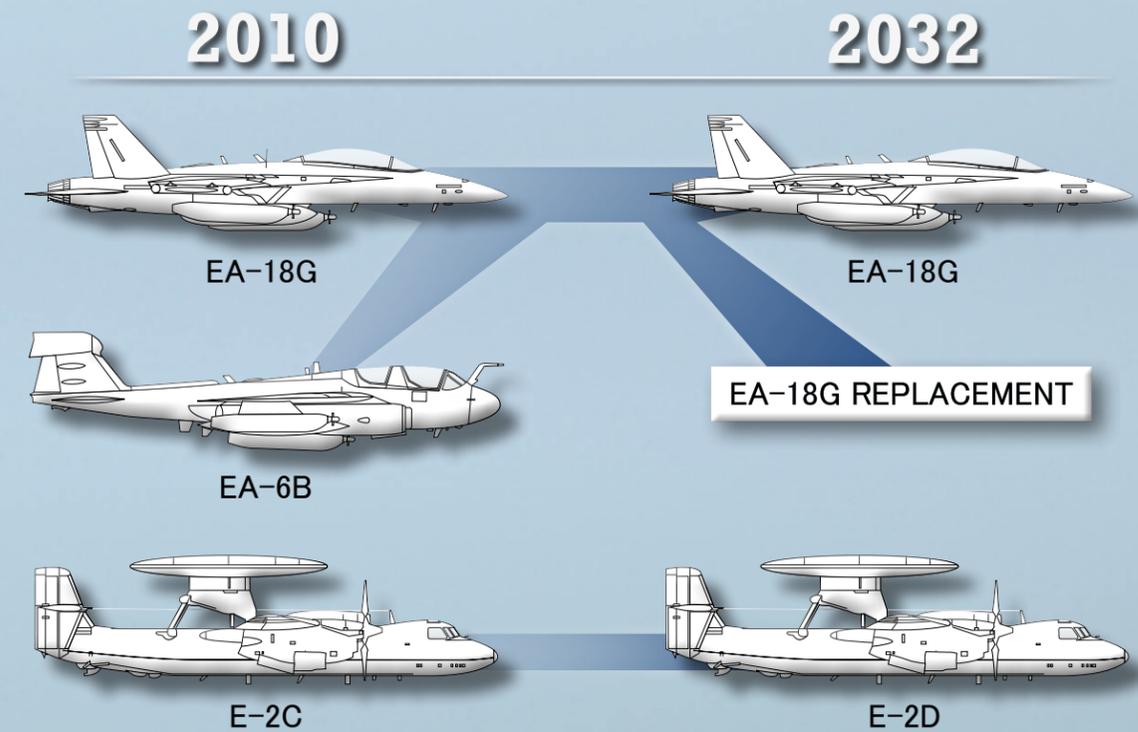


EA-6B Prowler/EA-18G Growler Airborne Electronic Attack/ EA-18G Replacement

The EA-6B *Prowler* has long served as the nation's foremost tactical airborne electronic attack platform. In December 2001, the Navy completed an analysis of alternatives for electronic attack, laying the foundation for the eventual replacement of the *Prowler* with the EA-18G *Growler*. Until then, investments in the ALQ-218 receiver system, which is the heart of the EA-6B Improved Capability III program, will provide a critical technology bridge between the *Prowler* and the *Growler*. The improved capability program and the EA-18G are vital components of the Defense Department's plan to build a joint "system of systems" electronic attack capability. With an initial operational capability in 2009, the EA-18G has begun replacing carrier-based EA-6B aircraft. Full operational capability is scheduled for 2012. By 2032, the EA-18G Replacement aircraft will have begun replacing the EA-18G *Growler*.

E-2C Hawkeye /E-2D Advanced Hawkeye

The *Hawkeye* provides all-weather airborne early warning, airborne battle management, and command-and-control functions for carrier strike group and joint force commanders. An integral component of the carrier air wing, the *Hawkeye* uses computerized radar, identification friend or foe, and electronic surveillance sensors to provide early warning threat analysis against potentially hostile air and surface targets. The E-2D *Advanced Hawkeye* replaces the current E-2C aircraft. The *Advanced Hawkeye* radar will provide enhanced capabilities in the overland and littoral environments as well as in the open ocean, while improving performance against clutter and small targets and adding transformational surveillance and theater air and missile defense capabilities. *Advanced Hawkeye* is currently undergoing flight testing and has been approved for low-rate initial production. Initial operational capability for the aircraft will be in fiscal year 2015.



MARINE CORPS TACTICAL AIRCRAFT

F-35B *Lightning II* Joint Strike Fighter

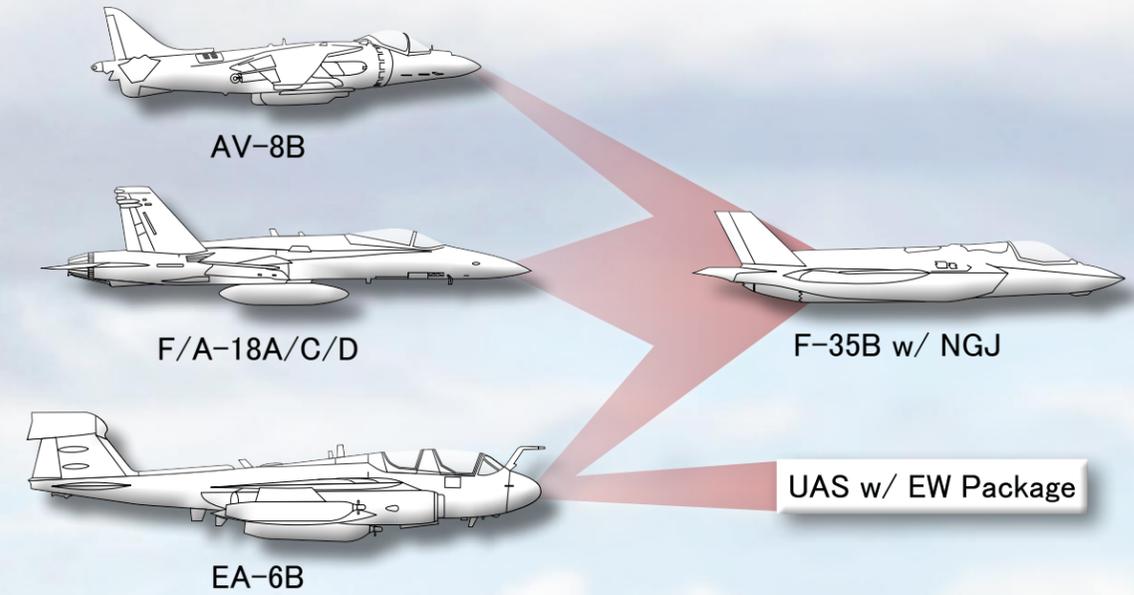
The Marine Corps' AV-8B *Harrier*, EA-6B *Prowler*, and F/A-18A/C/D *Hornet* aircraft will be replaced with the F-35B *Lightning II* short take-off and landing variant of the Joint Strike Fighter. This version of the *Lightning II* combines multi-role, low-observable, fifth-generation capabilities with the flexibility required for expeditionary basing. The F-35B will allow the Marine Corps to provide tactical air operational flexibility and tactical supremacy to Marine and joint task force commanders. Initial operational capability for the F-35B is fiscal year 2012.

F4F-3, 1942



2010

2032



EA-6B *Prowler* and Airborne Electronic Attack

The Marine Corps will continue to fly the Improved Capability III EA-6B *Prowler* as a capability bridge to a MAGTF-scalable, system of systems able to support the needs of the joint force. In development are unmanned aircraft system (UAS) payloads, ground systems, and joint improvements to the all-service variant of the F-35B that will enable a distributed electronic warfare (EW) capability suitable for Marine operations.